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**MAYOR EMANUEL ANNOUNCES \$3.6 MILLION GRANT TO HELP CITY SECURE, DEMOLISH
NUISANCE PROPERTIES**

Approximately 100 abandoned homes across Chicago would be secured, rehabilitated or demolished over the next two years through a financial proposal introduced to City Council today by Mayor Rahm Emanuel.

The proposal would authorize the City of Chicago to accept a \$3.6 million grant from the Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) to secure, repair or raze one-to-four unit residential properties that are unoccupied and either abandoned or in need of significant maintenance.

Part of the State of Illinois' Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Program, the grant could also be used for trimming of overgrown vegetation, pest extermination, and the removal of debris and graffiti.

The funding would be administered by the Department of Planning and Development (DPD) with work to be performed by approved contractors working in conjunction with the Department of Buildings (DOB). Demolition and maintenance costs would vary depending on individual property conditions.

DPD applied for the funding in October 2016 and was awarded the competitive grant in March. In a previous funding cycle, DOB received a similar \$2 million grant from IHDA, which was used to secure 252 and demolish 137 properties.

The abandoned property program was created by the state legislature in 2013. Funding for the program comes from foreclosure filing fees that banks and other lending institutions pay to the state each year.

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HOUSING PROPOSAL WOULD SUPPORT THE PRESERVATION OF 196 AFFORDABLE APARTMENTS IN WOODLAWN

Financial plans introduced today to City Council by Mayor Rahm Emanuel would support the rehabilitation and preservation of 196 units of affordable rental housing in Woodlawn.

The \$25.4 million “Woodlawn Roll Up” rehab project by Preservation of Affordable Housing Inc. (POAH) would encompass 16 apartment buildings in the area bounded by King Drive, Stony Island Avenue, and 63rd and 65th streets. Improvements would include waterproofing and tuck pointing, selective kitchen and bathroom upgrades, the addition of air conditioning systems, fencing, exterior lighting, signage, and security cameras.

As part of the project, the 16 buildings would be sold by POAH and restructured under a new first mortgage by Woodlawn Roll Up Preservation Associates LP, which would perform the renovations and keep the properties affordable for the next 30 years.

City assistance would include \$13 million in tax exempt bond financing, a \$1.5 million loan, and \$5.4 million in Low Income Housing Tax credit equity. Additional funding sources would include a \$5 million private loan and a \$125,000 energy loan.

One hundred twenty-one units would retain their Section 8 Housing Assistance Program (HAP) contracts and be set aside as replacement units for residents of the Chicago Housing Authority’s former Grove Parc Plaza. An additional 56 units would be leased at affordable rent levels and 19 at market rates.

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